

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A traffic shaper comprises a bandwidth controller  
40 having a plurality of leaky bucket units 41-1 to  
5 41-n prepared in correspondence with buffer memories  
20-1 to 20-n, and an output queue designation unit 43  
for specifying a buffer memory from which a packet is  
to be read out. Each of the leaky bucket units 41 has  
a level counter 416 for decrementing the count value  
10 at a predetermined rate, and a level increaser 411 to  
417 for increasing the count value of the level counter  
by a value proportional to the product of the length  
of a transmitted packet and a unitary increment value  
which is variable depend on the current count value  
15 of the level counter.

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